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FM AMEMBASSY WARSAW
TO RUEHRC/USDA FAS WASHDC PRIORITY 2026
RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 5533
INFO RUCNMEM/EU MEMBER STATES
RUEHKW/AMCONSUL KRAKOW 1909
RUCPDOC/DEPT OF COMMERCE WASHINGTON DC
RUEHRC/DEPT OF AGRICULTURE WASHINGTON DC

UNCLAS WARSAW 002265

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SENSITIVE SIPDIS

STATE PASS TO USTR FOR MCLARKSON
USDA/FAS FOR EJONES
STATE FOR EEB/TPP/ABT/BTT FOR JBOBO AND EUR/ERA FOR SGRAY

E.O. 12958: N/A

TAGS: EAGR ETRD EUN TBIO PL

SUBJECT: POLAND: BIOTECH POLICY UNCERTAIN-POSITIVE CHANGE POSSIBLE

POSSIBLE

REF: A. STATE 158225

**1B.** WARSAW 2230

- 11. (U) On 21 November AgAtt Kate Snipes delivered ref. A demarche on the EU discussion regarding a tolerance level for low level presence of unapproved biotech products to Dr. Andzej Wojtyla, Head of Sanitary Inspection and Emilia Kalinska, Specialist on GM Food at the Polish Ministry of Health and Dr. Ewa Lech, Chief Veterinary Officer at the Polish Ministry of Agriculture.
- 12. (SBU) In separate meetings Kalinska and Lech both said that Poland does not have a formal position on the matter of low level presence (LLP) at this time due to the change in government. Kalinska stated that under the previous coalition government led by Law and Justice (PiS) she was confident Poland would have been against any tolerance level for LLP for unapproved products but noted there may be more flexibility in the new government. Lech speculated that the new government's position may be more pragmatic regarding ag biotech. She added that both the Polish pork industry and the Ministry of Agriculture officials responsible for feed are aware of the limits of non-GM feed supplies and are concerned that limited access to feed would make Polish producers less competitive and raise meat prices for Polish consumers.
- 13. (U) Kalinska confirmed that if tolerances were adopted by the EU, Poland would have the capacity to test and measure them with five laboratories approved as part of the EU Network of GM Laboratories (ENGL).
- 14. (U) The formal coalition agreement was signed between Civic Platform (PO) and the Polish People's Party (PSL) on the morning of November 23. The official Polish position on ag biotech will be decided under this new leadership. (See ref. B.)
  ASHE